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BUCKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

OF

DR. A. CATHCART, M.B. Ch.B., D.T.M. & D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1961.



COUNCIL CHAMBERS,

BUCKLEY,

FLINTSHIRE.

Miss Catherall and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Buckley Urban District for the year 1961.

The 1951 Census gave a population of 7,699 (3,793 males and 3,906 females), as compared with the 1931 Census of 7,053, (3,626 males and 3,427 females), an increase in the population of 646 or a percentage of 9.2% in 20 years.

The estimated population for June 1961 is 7,690, a fall of 30 since last year.

The total number of live births was 119, 23 less than in 1960, and in consequence the birth rate is 16.1 per 1,000 of the population in 1961 as compared with 19.0 per 1,000 of the population in 1960.

For comparison with other areas the rate is 16.1 which is lower than that for England and Wales, which is 17.4 per 1,000 of the population.

The total deaths recorded during the year is 103, which is 10 more than in 1960, so that the death rate corrected is 16.43 per 1,000 of the home population. It is higher than the rate for England and Wales, which is 12.0 per 1,000 of the home population.

There were 4 deaths in infants under one year of age, giving a rate of 42.0 per 1,000 live births. The rate for England and Wales is 21.4. There was one still-birth, this gives a still-birth rate of 8.3 as compared with a rate of 21.4 for England and Wales.

The principal cause of death was disease of the heart and circulatory system, which accounted for 49 of the 103 deaths during the year, so that 48.54 of all deaths occurred in this group of diseases (17-21 inclusive in the Table - Causes of Death.)

Cancer accounted for 12 deaths, 10 less than in 1960. Cancer accounted for 11.6 of all deaths. There were 4 deaths from cancer of the lungs or bronchus, the same as the 1960 figure; 3 were males and 1 female.

This year there were no deaths from tuberculosis. Accidents accounted for 3 deaths in 1961, as compared with 4 in 1960.

There was 1 maternal death in 1961, and no deaths from diphtheria.

As regards infectious diseases, notifications were light throughout the year.

In conclusion, I must express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of your Health Committee and all your Officials, particularly Mr. R. Messham, whose local knowledge is invaluable, and your Public Health Inspector, Mr. D. Harwood, who supports me loyally.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

A. CATECART.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS - 1961.

Area (in acres)	2677
Population (Census 1951)	7699
Population (Estimated 1961)	7690
Density (number of persons per acre)	2.88
Number of inhabited houses	2427
Number of occupied houses owned by Local Authority	559
New houses certified	52
Births (live)	119
Birth Rate (per 1,000 of home population)	16.1
Birth Rate (England and Wales)	17.4
Deaths	103
Death Rate (per 1000 of home population)	16.45
Death Rate (England and Wales)	12.0
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	42.0
Death Rate of all forms of tuberculosis (Rate per 1,000 population)	0.0

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	2677
Population (Census 1931)	7053
Population (Census 1951)	7699
Population (Estimated June 1961)	7690
Number of inhabited houses	2427
Rateable Value	£74077
Sum represented by ld. rate	£290

The Buckley Urban District is situated in a foothill of the Clwydian Range to the North East of the County of Flint, and is bounded on the North, East and South by the Hawarden Rural District and in the North, West and South by the Holywell Rural District.

The subsoil is clay in the greater part of the area. Below are the lower coal measures, now very little worked. The principal industries are Cement, Brick, Tile and Pipe works, together with Agriculture.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

ESTIMATED MID-YEAR HOME POPULATION - 7690.

Comparability Factors.

Births: 1.04

Deaths: 1.12

LIVE BIRTHS.

	M.	F.	Total	Birth Rate per 1000 Home Population
Total	73	46	119	16.1
Legitimate	69	46	115	15.0
Illegitimate	4	-	4	.52

STILL BIRTHS.

	M.	F.	Total	Rate per 1000 total (Live and Still Births)
Total	-	1	1	8.3
Legitimate	-	1	1	8.3
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-
2. " other	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningoccal Infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective - parasitic disease	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	-
11. " " - Lung Bronchus	3	1
12. " " - Breast	-	2
13. " " - Uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasm	3	-
15. Leukaemia - aleukaemia	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system	6	8
18. Coronary diseases - angina	15	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	2
20. Other heart disease	6	5
21. Other circulatory disease	1	1
22. Influenza	2	6
23. Pneumonia	5	-
24. Bronchitis	5	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy - childbirth - abortion	-	1
31. Congenital malformation	2	-
32. Other defined or ill-defined diseases	3	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	3
35. Suicide	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	<u>55</u>	<u>48</u>

HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Public Health Officials of the URBAN AUTHORITY consist of:-

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. A. Cathcart, M.B. Ch.B., D.T.M. & H.D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector - A. G. Watkin, M.S.I.A. (To April, 1961.)
From April, 1961:-
- D. Harwood, M.A.P.H.I.
Certificate R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.
Certificate R.S.I. Meat and Foods.
Diploma - Advanced General Hygiene - R.I.P.H & H.

NURSING IN THE HOME - The Flintshire County Council employ District Nurse/
Midwives, the services of whom are available to the residents of Buckley.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE - Five qualified Medical Practitioners reside in the
Buckley area, of these five, four are Principals in practice and three have
Assistants. Altogether, Principals and Assistants, there are eight Medical
Practitioners available for the population of Buckley and contiguous rural areas.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. - This work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory
Service at Chester.

HOSPITALS - ISOLATION. - None. Infectious cases requiring isolation are now
admitted to an Infectious Diseases Hospital at Colwyn Bay, Wrexham or Clatterbridge.

SMALLPOX. - None.

TUBERCULOSIS. - None. Cases from the area are sent to the Meadowslea Hospital,
Penyffordd, about three miles away, and may be transferred from there on the
recommendation of the Chest Physician to the Chest Hospital at Llangwyfan, near
Denbigh.

MATERNITY. - None. The Catherine Gladstone Maternity Hospital is situated at
Mancot, approximately four and a half miles away. Pathological cases may be
sent to one of the Chester Hospitals.

CHILDRENS. - None. Children are hospitalised at the Chester Royal Infirmary,
Maelor General Hospital, Wrexham, or occasionally, in special cases, at the
Children's Hospital, Myrtle Street, Liverpool.

GENERAL HOSPITALS. - Emergency cases may be sent to the Royal Infirmary or City
Hospital, Chester, or occasionally to the Mold Hospital.

PROVISIONS FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS - ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS. Provision is made by the
County Council at Bersham Hall.

MENTAL HEALTH. The supervision of cases under the Mental Health Act, 1959, is
carried out by the County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. - This service is provided by the County Council.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE. - There is an Anti-Natal Centre and Infant Child Welfare Centre conducted by the County Council at the Welsh C.M. Schoolroom, the former on the first and third Monday afternoon and the latter every Monday afternoon; a new Clinic is in course of construction, and this will be opened early in 1962.

DAY NURSERIES. - None.

SCHOOL CLINICS. - A School Clinic is supervised by the County Medical Officer of Health and his Assistants, and is held on Tuesday of each week in the Welsh C.M. Schoolroom.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARIES. - None in the area. There is a Chest Clinic at "Oaklands," Queensferry, at which the Chest Physician and his Assistant see patients once a fortnight. There is also a Clinic every Monday and Thursday afternoon at Meadowslea Hospital, Penyffordd.

VENEREAL DISEASES. - None. Cases are sent to the Special Clinics at the Royal Infirmary, Chester, by arrangement between the County Authorities and the Chester Royal Infirmary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-
Measles	19	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Acute Polio Myelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1961.

	Acute Polio Myelitis	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Food Poisoning
Under 1 year													
1 & 2 years								1			7		
3 & 4 years								1			3		
5 to 9 years				3							6		
10 to 14 years								1			2		
15 to 24 years											1		
25 and over								3					
Total Cases Notified				3				6			19		
Cases sent to Hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1961.

<u>Age Periods</u>	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Cases Notified	Cases Treated		Unimpaired	Impaired	Blindness	Deaths
At Home	In Hospital					
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

SA LITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

In April of this year, a separate Public Health Inspector's Department was organised, thus enabling the Council to operate a progressive Public Health policy.

Routine inspections have been carried out in connection with various trades and premises, but it has not been possible to inspect all the premises in the nine months available.

There is a considerable amount of work to be done in connection with Food Hygiene, Slum Clearance and the abatement of nuisances. 1961 has seen a positive start in this work, and with the Council's continuing support, 1962 will produce visible results.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is provided by the Hawarden and District Waterworks Company. This Company impounds water in the mountains at Cilcain, about 10 miles distant from Buckley.

The Company now possesses at Pren Brigog, two covered reservoirs having a total capacity of 1,000,000 gallons. Four samples of the water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Chester, and were found to be satisfactory. Difficulties have arisen due to lack of pressure to some localities, and schemes are being considered to rectify this situation.

During the year, four cottages were provided with a water supply inside the house, thus eliminating a stand pipe in the adjoining road which had been used for numerous years.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

MEAT INSPECTION.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the area; they are occupied by retail butchers and are used on various days of the week. During this year, all animals slaughtered have been of a good class; this is reflected in the small number of items found to be unfit for food. It is also indicative of the success of the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme, carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, that no cattle were found to be tubercular.

Number of visits to Slaughterhouses	131
Number of animals slaughtered (cattle 114, sheep 651, pigs 37)	802
Number of animals inspected	802
<u>Items found to be unfit for Food:-</u>	
Carcase and organs of a sheep - oedema & emaciation	<u>Weight:</u> 32-lbs.
2 Pig heads - tuberculosis	20-lbs.
Offal (mainly beasts' livers) -	150-lbs.
Total Weight	<u>202-lbs.</u>

OTHER FOODS.

Below is set out a list of foods surrendered and found to be unfit for food:-

2 x 6-lb. tins corned beef.
30-lbs. miscellaneous tinned foods.

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD HYGIENE.

The number and type of food premises in the area at the end of 1961 were as set out below:-

Butchers	13
Bakers	4
General Grocers	34
Greengrocers	9
Fried Fish Shops	9
Cafes	2
Licensed Premises, Canteens, Clubs	30
Shops selling mainly sweets, minerals, ice cream etc.	9
Total	<u>110</u>

Number of inspections made	120
Number of premises where contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960 were found	44

During the year, leaflets regarding Food Hygiene were handed to each food trader, and visits were made to explain the various requirements, there was also a display of posters, etc., illustrating food hygiene and its relationship to food poisoning, in a local shop window.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SECTION 16.

At the end of the year, there were 43 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, and one room registered for the manufacture of sausages. All the above premises were inspected, and the ice-cream and containers found to be satisfactory.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Since 1949 control of milk production has been the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1960, Food and Drugs Authorities issue all licenses to dealers in designated milk - in this area, Flintshire County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority, thus they deal with all licenses and sampling of milk.

HOUSING.

This year has shown steady progress in the building of council houses and the clearance of slum properties - if this progress continues within the next four or five years, all slum property will have been dealt with in this area.

Number of Council Houses Built	22
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

HOUSING ACT, 1957. SECTION 42.

Number of Clearance Areas declared in 1961.	3
Number of Houses in above areas	56
Number of Houses demolished in Clearance Areas declared prior to 1961	20

SECTION 16.

Number of Houses reported to the Council as individual unfit houses not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered so fit	29
Number of Undertakings accepted	1
Number of unfit Houses made fit for habitation	1

SECTION 17.

Number of Demolition Orders made	5
Number of Unfit Houses Demolished	9
Number of Unfit Houses Closed	3
Number of Inspections made re above	247

SECTIONS 9 & 18.

No Action was taken under these Sections.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS 1936 AND 1961.

Verbal Notices Served	14
Verbal Notices Complied with	3
Number of Informal Notices Served	45
Number of Informal Notices Complied with	33
Number of Statutory Notices Served	25
Number of Statutory Notices Complied with	16
By Owner	12
By Local Authority	4

RENT ACT 1957.

No applications were received for certificates of disrepair this year, there are, however, many such certificates still in force where the owner is not prepared to do the necessary repairs for the small increase in rent obtainable.

In many of the above cases, action can be taken under the Public Health Acts to secure the abatement of nuisances, but there are other cases where the tenancy is uncontrolled, and thus the tenants fear to complain to the Public Health Inspector because of the danger of receiving a Notice to Quit from the owner. This can be a very difficult situation, as the Public Health Inspector is, by statute, required to secure the abatement of nuisances and other housing defects.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The major portion of the built up areas are served by sewers, and other schemes are being considered in order to enable the whole area to be sewered. This is a most desirable plan, as septic tanks and their effluents are often the cause of complaint, whilst pail closets are unsatisfactory from all points of view.

Total Number of Pail Closets - December, 1961. 259.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Two motor vehicles and six men are employed on this work, and over the last twelve months, it has not been possible to carry out a weekly collection of house refuse. This is due to various factors, not least of which is the fact that approximately 20% of the houses in Buckley do not have a proper dustbin.

During the year, a Sub-Committee was appointed to consider this subject, and by the end of the year, a scheme was being considered whereby a weekly collection of house refuse could be achieved.

Refuse is being tipped at the Belmont Tip, and difficulties have been experienced here, mainly due to unauthorised tipping.

RODENT CONTROL AND INSECT PESTS.

Infestations have been of a minor nature, and such areas around the refuse tip and sewage works are treated regularly by the Rodent Operator. Insect pests are satisfactorily dealt with by using a powder insecticide.

No: of Premises Treated:

Rats: 108.

Mice: 5.

Insect Pests: 15.

Estimated Kill: Rats: 471. Mice: 25.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Most of the large factories in this area are under the supervision of the Alkali Inspectorate, and any cases of excessive smoke are referred to such Inspectors. Complaints have been few, probably due to Buckley being situated on a hill; thus the smoke does not hang over the town area.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The Swimming Baths and Plunge Baths situated behind the Public Library, were a gift of the Miners' Welfare Committee. The water is supplied by the Hawarden and District Waterworks Company, and is filtered, chlorinated and aerated continuously throughout the season. Late in the year, plans were approved for extensive modernisation of the Baths.

SCHOOLS.

Elfed Sec. Modern.
St. Matthews
St. Matthews Infants
Lane End Infants
Bistre Church of England
County Primary

SITUATION.

Liverpool Road.
Church Road.
Church Road.
Chester Road.
Mold Road.
Padeswood Road.

WATER SUPPLY.

Hawarden Water Company
" " "
" " "
" " "
" " "
" " "

Plans have been approved for a new Primary School which will be built in 1962.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

No: of Inspections Made.

Water Supply	28
Drainage	62
Fried Fish Shops	7
Houses let in Lodgings	2
Tents, Vans and Sheds	30
Factories	18
Public Conveniences	2
Licensed Premises	4
Refuse Collection	47
Refuse Disposal	102
Rats and Mice	14
Atmospheric Pollution	7
Miscellaneous	61
Pet Animal Shops	1
Water Samples Taken	4
Number of houses inspected (Public Health Acts)	54
Re-inspection of above Houses	73
Number of Houses inspected (Housing Acts)	121
Re-inspection of above Houses	126
Number of Houses inspected re over-crowding	4
Number of re-inspections of above Houses	1
Miscellaneous Housing visits	90
Slaughterhouses	168
Butchers	26
Canteens	1
Fishmongers and Poulterers	3
Food preparing Premises	4
Grocers	41
Greengrocers	16
Ice-cream Premises	24
Restaurants	2
Food Hawkers	1
Bakeries	4
Miscellaneous Food Visits	4
	<u>1152</u>

ANALYSIS OF DEFECTIVE CONDITIONS.

<u>Type of Defect.</u>	<u>Number Discovered</u>	<u>Number Remedied.</u>
Drains	19	18
Water Closets	10	3
Water Supplies	5	4
Sinks and Waste Pipes	2	1
Dustbins and Ashpits	8	8
Roofs	14	4
Chimneys and Flues	1	-
Fire Ranges	2	-
Eaves, Gutters & Rainwater Pipes	8	5
Damp Walls	17	3
Plastering (Walls and Ceilings)	30	4
Floors	4	2
Windows	10	5
Doors	7	2
Yard Paving	1	-
Accumulation of Rubbish	5	4
Pig Styes	1	1
Staircases	1	-
Ventilation	2	1
	<u>147</u>	<u>65</u>

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1961 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF BUCKLEY IN THE COUNTY OF FLINT.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part I of the Act.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	30	15	5	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	-	-
Total	33	18	5	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness(S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp.(S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Insp. (4)	By H.M. Insp. (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	5	1	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	1	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	7	1	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 & 111)

N I L



